

WHAT IS CLAIMED:

1. A method for altering vaginal blood flow of a female individual, comprising:
administering to the female by inhalation of an odorant in an amount effective to alter vaginal blood flow.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the odorant is effective to increase vaginal blood flow of the female individual by about 10-30%.
3. The method of claim 2, wherein the odorant is selected from the group consisting of a baby powder odorant, a mixture of licorice-based and banana nut bread odorants, a mixture of licorice-based and cucumber odorants, a floral-aldehydic perfume odorant, a mixture of lavender and pumpkin pie odorants, and a mixture of baby powder and chocolate odorants.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein the odorant is effective to increase vaginal blood flow of the female individual by about 4-15%.
5. The method of claim 4, wherein the odorant is selected from the group consisting of a mixture of a licorice-based and cucumber odorant, a baby powder odorant, a mixture of a lavender and pumpkin pie odorant, and a mixture of a baby powder and chocolate odorant.
6. The method of claim 1, wherein the odorant is effective to decrease vaginal blood flow of the female individual by about 10-20%.
7. The method of claim 6, wherein the odorant is selected from the group consisting of a licorice-based odorant, a charcoal barbecue smoke odorant, and a cherry odorant, a mixture of licorice-based and cucumber odorants, and a floral-aldehydic perfume odorant.

8. The method of claim 6, wherein the odorant is selected from the group consisting of a licorice-based odorant, a charcoal barbecue smoke odorant, and a cherry odorant.

9. The method of claim 1, wherein the concentration of the odorant is effective to provide a suprathreshold but not irritant amount of the odorant.

10. The method of claim 9, wherein the concentration of the odorant is at about 25-55 decismel units.

11. The method of claim 1, further comprising: having the female individual inhale the odorant for about 1-3 minutes.

12. A method of screening an odorant for altering vaginal blood flow of a female individual, comprising:

administering to the female individual an odorant by inhalation in an amount and for a time period effective to alter vaginal blood flow; and

at least one of: measuring the vaginal blood flow of the female individual before and after administering the odorant; and questioning the female individual as to the effectiveness of the odorant in increasing or decreasing sexual arousal before and after inhaling the odorant substance.

13. The method of screening of claim 12, further comprising, prior to administering the odorant: testing the female individual for olfactory ability.

14. An article of manufacture, comprising, packaged together:

an odorant as recited in claim 1 packaged within a container, wherein the odorant when inhaled by a female individual is effective to alter vaginal blood flow; and

instructions for use of the odorant for altering vaginal blood flow according to the method of claim 1.

15. The article of manufacture according to claim 14, further comprising at least one of the following:

a device for measuring vaginal blood flow of the female individual; and
means for testing olfactory ability in the female individual.

16. The article of manufacture of claim 14, wherein the concentration of the odorant is effective to provide a suprathreshold but not irritant amount of the odorant.

17. The article of manufacture of claim 16, wherein the concentration of the odorant is at about 25-55 decismel units.

18. The article of manufacture of claim 14, wherein the odorant is packaged within a delivery means selected from the group consisting of a vial, jar, pouch, can, bottle, blister pack, and a scratch-and-sniff odor patch containing microcapsules of the odorant.

19. The article of manufacture of claim 14, wherein the odorant is in a form selected from the group consisting of a cloth scented with the odorant, an aerosol spray, a pump-type spray, a nasal spray, a liquid or solid form of the odorant contained in a vessel having a cap, a liquid or solid form of the odorant contained in a blister pack, and microcapsules of the odorant contained in a scratch-and-sniff odor patch.

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20. The article of manufacture of claim 14, wherein the odorant is in the form of a cream or a cologne.

21. The article of manufacture of claim 14, wherein the odorant is in a liquid form contained in a dispenser.

22. The article of manufacture of claim 14, wherein the dispenser has a tip impregnated with the odorant.

23. The article of manufacture of claim 22, wherein the dispenser contains the odorant adsorbed to a wicking material.

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